



Public Review Draft Rollout & Comment Schedule

The Department of Water Resources is pleased to release for broad review and comment the Public Review Draft of the California Water Plan Update 2009: Integrated Water Management, which is truly becoming the *state's* Water Plan. It has benefited from the first interagency Steering Committee representing 21 state government agencies with jurisdictions over different aspects of water resources, and it integrates their companion plans and initiatives. In addition, a 45-member Advisory Committee, expanded regional outreach, greater involvement of California Native American Tribes, and coordination with federal agencies provided broad participation in preparing this draft plan.

Below find information about the 2009 Public Review Draft rollout and comment schedule.

Draft Publications

Water Plan Highlights
 Volume 1 - The Strategic Plan
 Volume 2 - Resource Management Strategies
 Volume 3 - Regional Reports

When available online

January 7
 January 7
 January 21
 January 28

All drafts will be posted at www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/cwpu2009/index.cfm. The printed *Highlights*, containing a CD of the other volumes, will be available in February.

Upcoming Workshops

SWAN workshops on scenario analysis
 Advisory Committee workshops
 Public Comment Workshops in all regions

When held

February
 mid-March
 mid-April through May

Options for Sending Comments

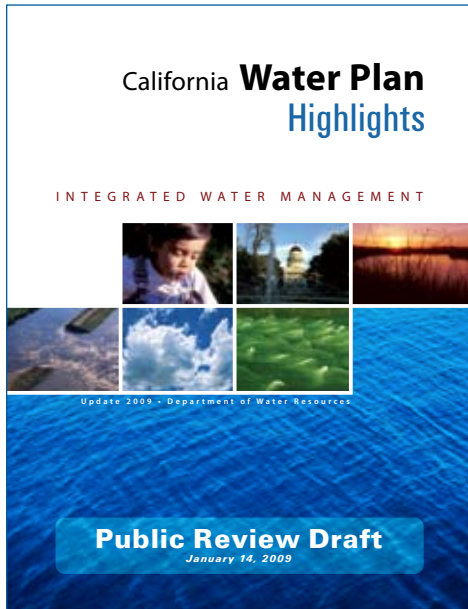
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Comments due by June 5

All comments received are posted at www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/comments/update2009/

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Conclusion (excerpt from Jan. 14 Highlights)



With new urgency, this Water Plan follows the Update 2005 roadmap to sustainable water uses and reliable water supplies—to use water efficiently, improve water quality, and expand environmental stewardship. Update 2009 marks a new chapter in the way California must manage her water resources. It is the state’s blueprint for integrated water management and sustainability—statewide and regional.

We must adapt and evolve California’s water systems more quickly and effectively to keep pace with ever changing conditions now and in the future. Population is growing while available water supplies are static and even decreasing. Climate change, as evidenced by changes in snowpack, river flows, and sea levels, is profoundly impacting our water resources. The Delta and other watersheds and ecosystems continue to decline. The state’s current water and flood management systems are increasingly challenged by legal remedies and regulatory protections, with economic and societal consequences. The entire system—water and flood management, watersheds, and ecosystems—has lost its resilience and is changing in undesirable ways.

So where do we start? — From all directions! — It is imperative that decisions about California water account for and reduce uncertainty and risk, and that investments make our water management systems, flood protection systems, and ecosystems more sustainable. New to this Water Plan is an integration of water resource and flood management. This approach will be challenging, but it can yield significant public safety benefits, protect water supplies, and improve the environment. A prime and urgent example is developing and then implementing a durable Delta Plan for its sustainable management.

Update 2009 may truly be called California’s Water Plan because it embodies countless deliberations between and among the brightest minds in government and private agencies, Tribes, cities, farms, industry, and environmental organizations. As a result, Update 2009:

- Provides an investment guide for state, federal, Tribal, and regional strategies to reduce water demand, improve operation efficiency, increase water supply, improve water quality, advance environmental stewardship, and improve flood management;
- Integrates objectives and strategies from numerous state agencies and initiatives and offers more than 90 near- and longer-term actions to achieve them;
- Describes 27 resource management strategies that each region can select from to develop a unique and diverse water portfolio suitable for managing an uncertain future; and
- Outlines new analytical methods and tools to help plan for future effects of climate change, population growth and development patterns, economic change, and other factors outside the water community’s control.

We must invest—significantly and uninterrupted—in California’s aging and increasingly inadequate water and flood systems. Californians have recognized the need to invest in our water and flood systems, but funds from bond-to-bond are neither sufficient nor sustainable. California needs more stable and continuous sources of revenue to invest in statewide and regional integrated water management and to build resilience back into the state’s water and flood management systems, as well as into the watersheds, groundwater basins, and ecosystems that support them.